



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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‘Salsa Under the Stars’ at the Taylor Library

SAN DIEGO – The Pacific Beach/Taylor Library will host “**Salsa Under the Stars**” on **Wednesday, August 13 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.** Manny Cepeda’s band *Ritmo Caribe* will perform on the library’s patio facing Cass Street, so as to allow room for dancing. **Basic salsa dancing lessons** will be offered in the Library’s Meeting Room on **Monday, August 11 at 6:00 p.m.**, and immediately prior to the concert on **Wednesday, August 13 at 6:00 p.m.** All three events are **FREE** and open to the public.

Manny Cepeda’s Orchestra, *Ritmo Caribe*, was formed in April 2004. Its main purpose was to bring Manny Cepeda’s original Salsa and Merengüe compositions as well as current Classic Salsa/Merengüe and Cuban music style to audiences throughout Southern California. The concept of combining the music from the Caribbean, Salsa, Merengüe, and Cuban music creates a flavor of Latin music unique to this group. The core of *Ritmo Caribe* is Manny Cepeda, vocalist, composer and leader; Monica Smith, lead vocalist and Ernie Becquer, vocalist and percussionist.

“Salsa” is the Spanish word for sauce, connoting (in American Spanish) a spicy flavor for both the style of music and dance. Salsa also suggests a “mixture” of ingredients: salsa dancing, for example, is a fusion of informal dance styles having roots in the Caribbean (especially in Cuba and Puerto Rico), Latin and North America, and Africa.

While salsa is usually performed as a partner dance, there are recognized solo steps. Each of the Basic Salsa Dancing Lessons at the Pacific Beach Library will cover at least the basic salsa steps, a turn and one combo. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Partners are not required.

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch of the San Diego Public Library is located at 4275 Cass Street, in Pacific Beach. For questions, please call the Library at 858-581-9934.

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